



Remembering David Mapp

David was a close friend. He was one of the most loving compassionate people we've ever known. Rita has known David for over 25 years. I first met David in 2010 at DFW airport when he returned from a mission trip to Mexico with Rita's son, Scott. We drove him to Palestine, TX where he lived. We weren't married yet and most of the way there David talked to Rita about how she needed to marry me. After we got married we got on the internet regularly with David and his wife Paula to discuss scripture and talk about the things of The Lord.

When God sent me to Africa to train abandoned street kids in ministry David went with me. Rita and Paula joined us later. We spent a month teaching the street kids Bible principles. Sixteen graduated and many are still serving The Lord in ministry today. I couldn't have done the training without David's help. We flowed together as a team, and God brought forth the fruit.

Lately we have tried to visit more with David and Paula just spending time fellowshiping. They were at our house just a few weeks ago. We talked about David helping me walk with the cross next week. He and Paula helped us do that when we walked in Austin several years ago praying for the great state of Texas. Little did we know that would be the last time we would see him this side of heaven. On Monday May 14 David was at the building supply store that he used to manage when Jesus met him and took him home. Precious in the sight of The Lord is the death of His saints.

David loved Jesus with all his heart. He understood that life is a journey that takes you to an eternal destination. For those who love Jesus and live to do His will the destination is God's blessed presence forever. For those who love themselves more than God and choose to pursue their own selfish lust and desires the destination is the endless nightmare of hell for all eternity. David's heart's desire was that people would choose to love his friend Jesus and spend eternity with him and his friend. If he were here today, he would urge everyone to love Jesus and serve Him the rest of their days.

We thank God for David's friendship. His journey is over and his life's purpose has been fulfilled. He was a blessing and encouragement to us on many occasions. We rejoice in the knowledge he is watching us from Heaven and cheering us on to finish life well by continuing to love Jesus and fulfilling God's purpose for us.